REMARKS

Claims 6-12 are pending in the application. Claims 6-7 and 9-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on a combination of U.S. Patent No. 2,907,859 to Walkoe and U.S. Publication No. 2004/0027248 to Lile. Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on a combination of Walkoe, Lile and U.S. Publication No. 2003/0010221 to Berger et al. ("Berger").

Independent claims 6 and 7 have now been amended. No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 6-7 and 9-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on a combination of U.S. Patent No. 2,907,859 to Walkoe and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0027248 to Lile. Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on a combination of Walkoe, Lile and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0010221 to Berger et al. ("Berger").

Walkoe describes an oven with an oven door opener mechanism that includes an electrically heated ram actuator unit 42 and opens the oven door by extending a ram 47 in accordance with a timer or a thermostat. See Walkoe, column 2, lines 1-15, and column 4, lines 67-70. Walkoe includes a circuit with a meat probe 10 and a bimetallic strip 24. When the meat probe 10 reaches a desired temperature, the bimetallic strip 24 closes the circuit resulting in the extension of ram 47 and opening of oven door 7. See Walkoe, column 7, line 70 to column 8, line 32.

Lile describes a cooking appliance with a door 3 and a motor control circuit 204 that instructs the door to open and close. See Lile, paragraph [0021].

Berger describes a steam cooking apparatus. See Berger, Abstract.

Independent claim 6 of the present application has now been amended so as to recite "automatically moving the door from the closed position to the open position using the cooking appliance control system in response to a first signal indicative of a first condition defining that a cooking process is complete" and "automatically returning the door from the open position to the closed position in response to a second signal indicative of a second condition in which a physical

quantity including at least one of temperature and humidity falls below a predetermined threshold value," "wherein the first condition and the second condition are different." Support for the amendment may be found, for example, in paragraphs [0023], [0025] and [0026] of the Specification.

Similarly, independent claim 7 of the present application has now been amended so as to recite a "cooking appliance control system configured to actuate the positioning motor so as to automatically move the door from the closed position to the predetermined open position in response to a first signal indicative of a first condition defining that a cooking process is complete and to actuate the positioning motor so as to automatically return the door to the closed position when a second signal is indicative of a second condition in which a physical quantity including at least one of temperature and humidity has fallen below a predetermined threshold value stored in the memory, wherein the first condition and the second condition are different." Support for the amendment may be found, for example, in paragraphs [0023], [0025] and [0026] of the Specification.

It is respectfully submitted that Walkoe, Lile and Berger, both alone and in combination, fail to teach or suggest opening a door in response to a signal indicative of a first condition defining the completion of a cooking process and closing the door in response to a signal indicative of a different second condition in which a physical quantity including at least one of temperature and humidity falls below a predetermined threshold value, as required by claims 6 and 7. In contrast, Walkoe merely describes a circuit with a meat probe 10 and a bimetallic strip 24. When the meat probe 10 reaches a desired temperature, the bimetallic strip 24 closes the circuit resulting in the extension of ram 47 and opening of oven door 7. See Walkoe, column 7, line 70 to column 8, line 32. Walkoe does not teach or suggest effecting the ram based on any condition other than the temperature measured by the bimetallic strip. With respect to Lile, that reference merely describes a motor control circuit 204 that instructs a door of a cooking appliance to open and close. See Lile, paragraph [0021]. Lile does not describe teach or suggest opening the door based on a first condition and closing the door based on a different second condition in which a physical quantity including at least one of temperature and humidity fall below a threshold value. Berger merely describes a steam cooking apparatus.

Because each of Walkoe, Lile and Berger fail to teach or suggest the above-recited features of claims 6 and 7, it is respectfully submitted that any combination of these references, to the extent proper could not render claim 6 or 7 or dependent claims 8-12 obvious. Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 6-7 and 9-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on a combination of Walkoe and Lile and claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on a combination of Walkoe, Lile and Berger is respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any unpaid fees deemed required in connection with this submission, including any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or 1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 04-0100.

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Respectfully submitted,

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